GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:458
ANSWERED ON:20.11.2007
FTA WITH EUROPEAN UNION
Thomas Shri P.C.

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes for Free Trade Agreement(FTA) with European Union;

(b) whether Indian sea food and fish are likely to be included for free trade in this regard;

(c) whether fish and sea food industry of India are likely to be seriously affected by increase of imports in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action proposed to be taken to safeguard such domestic industry?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) Yes Sir. Negotiations for the India-European Union (EU) broad based Trade and Investment Agreement commenced on 28.6.2007 at Brussels.

(b) to (e) At the present stage of negotiations, no list of products to be included in the tariff liberalization programme has been exchanged. Consultations with the stake holders have been initiated to determine our concerns so as to ensure necessary safeguard measures in the negotiations.